

## **August 9, 1994, Retro Advisory Committee Meeting:**

### **In attendance:**

Rise Glaze  
Donna Ganders  
Jim Nunn  
Joe Hawkins  
John Switzer  
Tom Kwieciak  
Martin Lewis for Gene Vosberg

### **Guests:**

Scott Croucher, WA ST Food Dealers Assoc.  
Rob Sumner, Timber Operators Council  
Bill White, Senior Actuary L & I  
Chris Crouch, Region 3 Manager Investigations, L & I  
Stuart Brotherston, Retro Coordinator, L & I  
Gene Lashell, Retrospective Rating, L & I  
Laura Smith, Retrospective Rating, L & I

### **Chris Crouch, Region 3 Manager Investigations**

Chris presented information on the Investigations Unit's duties and responsibilities since the re-organization of L & I. He explained their primary responsibility in the past as been to gather information to help the claims managers make decisions. As the focus of the Department is on Customer Service, they are currently setting the goals and objectives for the units now split out by regional control. Many questions were directed at Chris.

### **Occupational Disease Claims**

The Committee agreed the current notifications system on occupational disease claims is working well. They will be pleased when the new Retro system is brought up and the cost information on the claims will be displayed on monthly and quarterly reports, as well as adjustments.

## **Updates:**

### **Staffing for Retrospective Rating**

Kathy has written up a pro and con statement on creating a special claims unit assigned to work with Retro enrollees' claims. The cons outnumber the pros for this suggestion. Kathy and the Retro Claims Consultants are preparing a plan where the Retro Claims Coordinators would take over responsibility of the direction of the plan for the claim to assist the claims manager in the resolution of stickier claims. This proposal will be run by the Committee for input before it is submitted to Theresa Whitmarsh. Rise requested case reserve training be included in the Claims Module.

### **Worksafe Washington**

Kathy reported that it had been decided to have a Worksafe Washington Advisory Committee to oversee this program. The Department will be working with an association instead of individual employers. The mechanics for selection will be done by the association. The pilot is projected to start in October 1994 and AGC was chosen as the association. Results will be measured on a one to two year basis(AGC has requested staggered enrollment into this program). There will be a 15% discount offered.

### **DSHS Task Force**

Kathy provided a brief update on the DSHS Task Force. The Director of Labor & Industries and Secretary of DSHS were directed by the Legislature to work together on an interagency agreement in an effort to reduce workplace injuries. There will be a 15% discount available to DSHS when the final plans have been put into place. No discount will be granted until that time. Results will be monitored on a quarterly basis to insure that DSHS is progressing on the reduction of injuries.

## **Progress and Problems**

Donna asked Bill White if there is anything on the 1995 rates yet. Bill said he has developed information on the risk class basis and would be glad to share. The Rate Hearings are set for late October.

Rise asked how catastrophic claims are charged to an employer. Bill White stated the law: three or more pensions(usually fatalities) coming from the same industrial accident will be added together and averaged by the number of claims. The total cost to the employer will be two of the computed averages.

Donna stated she was glad the Retro conference will be delayed until the Spring of 1995, due to so many things being scheduled in the remainder of 1994.

John Switzer, as a new member to the Committee, requested a brief re-org overview. Kathy explained the pre re-org structure and the post re-org structure.

Premium adjustment total sheets were attached to the minutes packet.

Donna asked Bill White if he could provide statistics for Committee members. Bill explained the RPM reports were developed to provide the requested statistics and were available for all Retro groups from Retro Marketing Coordinators.

Tom asked Bill White if there was any possibility the upper Size Group Tables for Retro would be expanded from 5 to 1. Bill stated he is putting together a packet that would include pretty significant changes to the Tables as they currently are. He anticipated having his suggestion packet ready for July 1, 1995.

The subject of Labor Union Representatives being invited to meeting was brought up. Kathy stated the meetings are open and anyone who wanted to could come but she will extend a invitation to attend to Labor Union Representatives.

**Next agenda:**

Someone from Olympia on the Subject of Investigation(Setting up goals)  
Best Practices(Change in Claims)  
Spring Conference

**The next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 11, 1994, from 9:00 - noon at the Department of Labor and Industries in Tumwater - Room N340.** The conference room is on the 3rd floor.

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